

Message Text

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10

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAM-01 SAJ-01 AID-05 IO-13 /088 W

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R 190230Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6889

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 1998

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR LA FR

SUBJECT: LAO ARMED OCCUPATION OF FRENCH SCHOOL AND WAREHOUSE

REF: VIENTIANE 1906

1. ARMED LAO SOLDIERS AND MILITIA OCCUPIED FRENCH EMBASSY SCHOOL AND WAREHOUSE AUGUST 16, AND FRENCH AMBASSADOR DUZER, WHO RETURNED TO LAOS AUGUST 18, PLANS TO PROTEST FORMALLY TO FOREIGN MINISTRY. FRENCH CONSUL ALAGN DESCRIERES TOLD EMBOFFS THAT FRENCH HAD BEEN DISCUSSING WITH LAO FOR SOME TIME HANDING OVER A FEW FRENCH EMBASSY BUILDINGS TO LAO, BUT THAT LAO HAD NEVER INDICATED THAT WANTED SCHOOL AND WAREHOUSE. ARMED OCCUPATION THEREFORE CAUGHT FRENCH BY SURPRISE, PARTICULARLY SINCE LAO HAD RECENTLY INVITED FRENCH DELEGATION TO VISIT

VIENTIANE TO DISCUSS OVERALL RELATIONS BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES, REPORTED REFTEL AND PREVIOUS.

2. DESCRIERES SAID THAT LAO HAD OCCUPIED SCHOOL BUILDING DURING SUMMER VACATION WHEN ONLY FEW CHILDREN WERE ATTENDING CLASSES.

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FRENCH PLAN OM MOVE EMBASSY SCHOOL TO ANOTHER BUILDING. SCHOOL WAS ESTABLISHED WHEN VIENTIANE LYCEES BEGAN CONDUCTING CLASSES IN LAO AND FRENCH CHILDREN STOPPED ATTENDING.

3. DESCRIERES ADDED THAT HE HAD PROTESTED TO SOLDIERS WHO OCCUPIED SCHOOL AND WAREHOUSE BUT THEY HAD REJECTED PROTEST. HE PLANNED TO GO AUGUST 19 TO FOREIGN MIMISTRY TO PROTEST INFORMALLY, FOLLOWED BY FORMAL PROTEST WHICH AMBASSADOR PLANNED MAKE TO ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER KHAMPHAY BOUPHA.

4. DESCRIERES ASKED IF THERE WERE STILL SOME U.S. PROPERTIES OCCUPIED BY LAO. WE DESCRIBED LACK OF SATISFACTORY SOLUTION TO LAO OCCUPATION OF SILVER CITY AND GSO COMPOOUND.
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Message Attributes

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